



HACU

HISPANIC
ASSOCIATION
OF COLLEGES &
UNIVERSITIES

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THE VOICE

OF HISPANIC HIGHER EDUCATION



**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:
Reauthorization of the
Higher Education Act
Message From The President**

LEADERS

■ The editors of Crain's New York Business named two members of the HACU Governing Board among New York's "100 Most Powerful Minority Business Leaders." Ricardo Fernandez, president of HACU member Herbert H. Lehman College of the City University of New York, was described as "one of the nation's foremost Hispanic educators and a community leader in the Bronx." Antonio Perez, President of Borough of Manhattan Community College, New York's largest community college, was described as "one of the leaders spearheading downtown's efforts to recover from September 11."

ALLIANCE ON CAPITOL HILL

■ The leadership of the Alliance for Equity in Higher Education met in June with Congressional leaders to urge support for a greater long-term investment in minority higher education as part of the five-year reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. The Alliance for Equity in Higher Education is the nation's first unified voice for all minority higher education concerns. It is an alliance of HACU, the American Indian Higher Education Consortium and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education.

STUDENT PROGRAMS GRANT

■ The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians in California contributed \$3 million to HACU member California State University at San Bernardino to create additional space for the University's Cross Cultural Center and develop endowments to fund student scholarships, internships and diversity programs. The University's student union also was named the Santos Manuel Student Union. "The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians recognize the importance of universities and the role they play in providing education, culture and training for families and individuals," said Deron Marquez, tribal chair of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

■ The Center for Community-Service Learning and Community Charter Middle School at HACU member California State University at Northridge received the "Valley of the Stars 2002 Business/Education Partnership Award" from the Economic Alliance of California's San Fernando Valley. The academic organizations were recognized for their success in improving the quality of education for San Fernando Valley middle school students.

ACCREDITATION

■ The Andreas School of Business at HACU member Barry University in Florida received full accreditation from AACSB International – the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Only about a third of all business schools in the United States are accredited by AACSB.

INTEL GRANT

■ The Pre-freshman Engineering Program (PREP) at HACU member New Mexico State University at Las Cruces received \$50,000 from the Intel Foundation. Las Cruces PREP is a seven-week, academically intense summer program designed to prepare pre-collegiate students for careers in science, engineering and mathematics (SEM). The program is part of a national consortium of Hispanic-Serving Institutions called Proyecto Access, which is funded by NASA through HACU member University of Texas at San Antonio.

INTERNSHIPS

■ A record 17 outstanding students from HACU member Santa Monica College in California are serving in federal government and university internship programs throughout the country this summer. The interns are working at world-renowned scientific research laboratories, in Congress and at federal government agencies. Student Jorge Galvez is interning at the U.S. Department of Defense through the HACU National Internship Program – the nation's largest Hispanic college internship program.

UPWARD BOUND

■ Seven HACU member colleges and universities in New Mexico won a total of \$2.3 million in four-year U.S. Department of Education grants to enhance Upward Bound programs on their campuses. Upward Bound is a federal TRIO program that helps prepare disadvantaged students for post-secondary education. The grant recipients are: the University of New Mexico, University of New Mexico's Valencia Campus, New Mexico Highlands University, New Mexico Junior College, New Mexico State University, Eastern New Mexico University-Portales and Eastern New Mexico University-Roswell.

OVERVIEW

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ABOUT OUR COVER

Congressional leaders join HACU to announce HACU's HEA reauthorization agenda on Capital Hill. From left: U.S. Sen. Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico, Miami-Dade Community College North Campus President Jose Vicente, U.S. Rep. Ileana Ros Lehtinen of Florida, HACU President and CEO Antonio Flores, Hostos Community College President Dolores Fernandez and Pontifical Catholic University Interim President Marcelina V. de Santiago.

COMING IN NEXT MONTH'S VOICE

17th Annual Conference Preview

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ABOUT HACU

The Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities represents more than 340 member and associate member colleges and universities in the United States, Puerto Rico and abroad with high Hispanic student enrollment rates — including federally designated Hispanic-Serving Institutions. HACU's mission is to improve access to and the quality of post-secondary educational opportunities for Hispanic students; to meet the needs of business, industry and government through the development and sharing of resources, information and expertise; and to promote the development and success of member and associate member colleges and universities.

NOTES FROM WASHINGTON

READY TO ACT

By Gumeindo Salas
Vice President of Government Relations

Congress will be returning from the Fourth of July recess ready to act on several bills of importance to the Hispanic higher education community. Several of these proposals can translate into new, multi-million dollar funding opportunities for HACU member and partner colleges and universities.

HACU also will be seeking support from individual members of Congress for HACU's Public Policy Priorities for Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act (HEA), which will determine federal spending policies for all higher education institutions for the next five years.

A summary of HACU's Public Policy Priorities for HEA reauthorization is included in this issue of the Voice. A full report of this comprehensive series of recommendations is available on the web at www.hacu.net. Please join HACU in urging support for this document.

Already, several of HACU's initial recommendations are being addressed in individual bills now before Congress.

Similar bills introduced in the House by Congressman Randy Forbes of Virginia (H.R. 2183) and Congressman Edolphus Town of New York (H.R. 2272) answer HACU's call for substantial increases in technology support for Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) and other Minority-Serving Institutions.

Each bill is titled the Minority-Serving Institution Digital and Wireless Technology Opportunity Act of 2003. If passed, this legislation will translate into \$250 million in new National Science Foundation grants each year for the next five years for HSIs and other Minority-Serving Institutions.

The Senate already has passed a companion bill, S.196, introduced by Senator George Allen of Virginia. HACU commends the leadership of Senator Allen and the leadership of Congressmen Town and Forbes for proposing this important investment in closing the digital divide between minority and non-minority populations.

HACU applauds the leadership of Congressman Ruben Hinojosa of Texas for introducing H.R. 2238, the "Next Generation Hispanic-Serving Institutions" bill, which addresses both graduate and undergraduate needs of HSIs. HACU is encouraged by the bipartisan support from this bill's 81 sponsors, including



every member of the Hispanic Congressional Caucus and Hispanic Congressional Conference.

HACU applauds the leadership of Senator Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico, co-chair of the Senate

Hispanic-Serving Institutions Coalition, who introduced S.1190, the Senate version of the "Next Generation Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs)" bill. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas, Senator Bingaman's colleague and co-chair of the bipartisan Senate HSIs Coalition, is principal co-sponsor of S.1190.

HACU also recommends eliminating the two-year wait-out period now required before HSIs with Title V grants can compete for new Title V grants.

S.1081, introduced by Senator Pete Domenici of New Mexico, would amend the HEA to remove the two-year wait-out period. This would allow HSIs the opportunity to compete for continued Title V grant funding, instead of being forced to stop mid-stream for two-year wait-out periods between grant applications. HACU applauds the leadership of Senator Domenici for introducing this important legislation in support of HSIs.

HACU also is seeking support in Congress for HACU's proposal to eliminate the burdensome "50 percent" low-income assurance requirement from the definition of HSIs. This requirement — which forces HSIs to amass information not traditionally collected — is both cumbersome and unfair, because it is not required of other Minority-Serving Institutions.

The "Next Generation HSIs" bill would eliminate both the two-year wait-out period and "50 percent" low-income assurance requirement from Title V.

HACU is urging support for legislative measures in line with HACU's HEA recommendations that would allow states the flexibility to offer in-state tuition rates to eligible students who have graduated from U.S. high schools, regardless of their immigration status.

HACU is expecting re-introduction in the Senate of the DREAM (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors) Act, which addresses this issue. The companion House version, the Student Adjustment Act, already has been introduced and is awaiting action on the House floor.

The proposed Energy Policy Act of 2003, or S.14, contains components directly

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OUR BLUEPRINT FOR HISPANIC HIGHER EDUCATION SUCCESS

By Antonio R. Flores
President and CEO of HACU

This is an extraordinary time for the Hispanic higher education community. We have reached a milestone in the unprecedented, bipartisan support in Congress for the college and career needs of our largest ethnic population. Yet, never have the challenges been more compelling.

HACU has presented a blueprint for the higher education success of the nation's youngest population group within "HACU's Public Policy Priorities for Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act (HEA)."

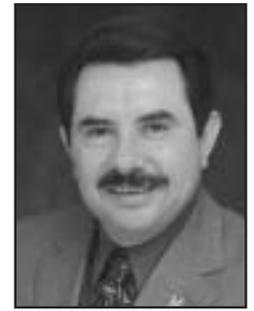
Our country has a tremendous stake in equipping the nation's fastest-growing school-age population with the advanced knowledge and skills that will so dramatically contribute to our nation's future economic strength, security and global leadership.

HACU's recommendations for the amendments to the HEA address the spectrum of education needs of a population that comprises one of every three new workers joining the U.S. workforce today. These needs are urgent, because Hispanic Americans also suffer the lowest high school and college graduation rates of any major population group.

HACU is calling for substantial new federal investments in Hispanic higher education over the next five-year cycle of the HEA. HACU's recommendations address student financial aid, pre-collegiate outreach, student retention, immigration, teacher education, undergraduate education, graduate education, technology and international education needs of our Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) and Associate HSIs.

HSIs, which serve the largest concentrations of Hispanic higher education students in the United States, are at the forefront of every significant effort to address the community and college needs of our fastest-growing U.S. Hispanic population centers. Yet HSIs remain under-funded compared to all other degree-granting institutions, receiving only about half the federal funding per student on average accorded other groups of higher education institutions.

HACU is also recommending the first, formal recognition and federal funding support for a group of emerging HSIs, or Associate HSIs, which have student enrollments that place them on the verge of becoming eligible for HSI status. These Associate HSIs already are becoming indispensable partners with HSIs, and deserve formal recognition and federal support now for their vital role in the Hispanic higher education community.



HACU is deeply grateful for the bipartisan support that welcomed our formal unveiling in Washington, D.C., in June of HACU's Public Policy Priorities for HEA Reauthorization.

Joining HACU and the leadership of our HACU Governing Board at the podium on Capitol Hill to announce our recommended amendments to the HEA were the authors of the landmark "Next Generation HSIs" bill now before the House and Senate – U.S. Senator Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico, co-chair of the Senate HSIs Coalition, and U.S. Representative Ruben Hinojosa of Texas, chair of the Education Task Force of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus.

In a thoroughly bipartisan spirit, HACU welcomed the bipartisan leadership of U.S. Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen of Florida, chair of the Congressional Hispanic Conference, and U.S. Representative Robert Menendez of New Jersey, chair of the House Democratic Caucus.

In addition, we were inspired by the presence and message of support of U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer of California, U.S. Representative Lucille Roybal-Allard, U.S. Representative James Moran of Virginia and U.S. Representative Sheila Jackson Lee of Texas.

We applaud the outstanding support for Hispanic higher education expressed by each of these distinguished leaders in the House and Senate, who so eloquently voiced our shared mission to support Hispanic higher education access, equity and success.

Please visit the following pages of this issue of *The Voice* for a summary of HACU's recommended amendments to the HEA. A full report on HACU's recommendations also can be found at www.hacu.net.

Each proposal addresses critical needs of our HSIs and Associate HSIs to most effectively equip them with the long-term federal funding support essential to substantially increase the ranks of Hispanics with baccalaureate and post-baccalaureate degrees.

Please join HACU in making HACU's Public Policy Priorities for HEA Reauthorization a national priority. Your grass roots support will make the difference.

Our Hispanic students are the face of the future. They can make a remarkable contribution to our country's progress and prosperity if we give our HSIs and Associate HSIs the tools they need to guide our students to success.

NOTES FROM WASHINGTON *continued from page 3*

addressing the needs of HSIs and other Minority-Serving Institutions serving the largest concentrations of Hispanic, African-American and Native-American students. The House companion bill, H.R. 6, already has been passed in the House.

Within S.14, *Subtitle C: Renewable Energy of Title IX: Research and Development* would provide at least \$5

million per federal fiscal year for grants to eligible HSIs and other Minority-Serving Institutions to encourage students from under-represented groups to pursue scientific and technical careers.

Sub-Section 932 of Subtitle C of S.14 would set aside additional funding for HSIs and other Minority-Serving Institutions to engage in activities to

encourage under-represented students to pursue science and technical careers.

HACU will be calling on its membership and allies to present a united voice to Congress in support of each of these important bills addressing the college and career development needs of our Hispanic students.

CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS JOIN HACU TO ANNOUNCE HEA RECOMMENDATIONS

Leading members of Congress joined HACU on Capitol Hill in June to call for unprecedented new federal support for the higher education needs of the nation's largest ethnic population. HACU's recommendations for reauthorization of the Higher Education Act (HEA) were announced at a crowded news conference in Washington, D.C.

"Hispanics are fueling the growth of America's workforce. They account for one of every three new workers, and are projected to make up one of every two new workers joining the workforce by 2025. Yet, Hispanics continue to have the lowest level of educational attainment of any major group," U.S. Representative Ruben Hinojosa of Texas said at the news conference.

"If we do not invest in the advanced education and training of this emerging population, we put our nation's economic

foundation at risk," said Hinojosa, chair of the education task force of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus.

HACU unveiled a comprehensive series of proposals to amend the HEA, which governs all federal higher education spending, to target record new federal investments in student financial aid, teacher training, technology and infrastructure support for the nation's more than 200 Hispanic-Serving Institutions, or HSIs.

"Everyone in this country will benefit from our proposals to provide this population with the advanced knowledge and skills that will so dramatically



U.S. Rep. Ruben Hinojosa addresses Capitol Hill news conference on HACU's recommendations for HEA reauthorization.

contribute to our nation's future economic success, security and global leadership," said HACU President and CEO Antonio R. Flores.

HSIs serve the largest concentrations of Hispanic higher education students in 25 states and Puerto Rico, but currently receive on average per student only a fraction

of federal funding provided to all other degree-granting institutions.

Jose Vicente, president of Miami-Dade Community College's North Campus in Florida and a member of the HACU Governing Board, said HACU's "bold new

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LANDMARK "NEXT GENERATION HSIs" BILL INTRODUCED

HACU is urging swift passage of landmark "Next Generation Hispanic-Serving Institution" legislation introduced in the House and the Senate. The bills propose record new federal spending on graduate and undergraduate education at HSIs.

"The unprecedented bipartisan commitment to this substantial, sustained investment in Hispanic higher education is an extraordinary milestone," HACU President and CEO Flores said. "We applaud the tremendous support in the House and Senate for this legislation, which surely will propel us to a new era of progress and prosperity in this country."

U.S. Representative Ruben Hinojosa of Texas, chair of the Education Task Force of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, introduced H.R. 2238, the "Next Generation Hispanic-Serving Institutions" bill, in the House with the bipartisan support of 81 co-sponsors.

Senator Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico, co-chair of the Senate Hispanic-Serving Institutions Coalition, introduced S.1190, the "Next Generation Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs)" bill. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas, Senator Bingaman's colleague and co-chair of the bipartisan Senate HSIs Coalition, is principal co-sponsor of S.1190.

"We commend Congressman Hinojosa, and Senators Bingaman and Hutchison for asking Congress to provide our historically under-funded HSIs with the support they must have to educate Hispanic Americans. This is vital to our nation's economic strength and global leadership," Flores said.

The twin bills, which are in line with HACU's Public Policy Priorities for Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act (HEA), propose a total federal funding authorization level of \$300 million each year for HSIs under Title V of the HEA, beginning in federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2005.

The "Next Generation HSIs" legislation would for the first time provide a Title V funding component for graduate education development at HSIs. The legislation would, for a five-year cycle beginning in FY 2005, authorize the annual spending of \$125 million for graduate education grants to HSIs.

The "Next Generation HSI" legislation would also authorize the annual spending of \$175 million for Title V undergraduate education grants to HSIs as part of the bill's proposed amendments to the HEA, which Congress is revisiting this year as part of the five-year HEA reauthorization cycle.

The legislation's major provisions would also:

- Eliminate the two-year wait-out period between applications by HSIs for continuing Title V grants;
- Eliminate the 50 percent low-income assurance requirement to be eligible for Title V grants;
- Expand the allowable use of Title V infrastructure grants to include the development of articulation agreements and student support programs to facilitate the transfer from two-year to four-year institutions.

Even though HSIs are at the forefront of every major effort to meet the college and career needs of the country's fastest-growing college-age population, HSIs continue to receive only about half the federal funding on average per student accorded to all other degree-granting institutions.

"HSIs must receive federal funding parity to better serve this dynamic population, which also suffers the lowest high school and college graduation rates of any major population group," Flores said. "The 'Next Generation HSIs' legislation is a step forward in narrowing the federal funding gap for HSIs, and will lay the foundation for Hispanic higher education excellence."

HACU's PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES FOR RE

A SUMMARY OF HACU'S RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE 108TH CONGRESS

HACU's Public Policy Priorities for Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act (HEA) encompass a series of recommendations for amendments to the HEA, including institutional development, graduate education and technology support under Title V of the HEA; teacher education/teacher quality provisions under Title II; financial aid and related immigration provisions under Title IV; and inclusion of HSIs and Hispanics in international education provisions under Title VI. For a complete report, visit www.hacu.net.

RECOMMENDATIONS

TITLE II: TEACHER EDUCATION/ TEACHER QUALITY

- HACU recommends creation of a new section under Title II that will authorize \$50 million "and such sums as Congress deems necessary" for eligible HSIs to create new and expand current teacher education programs of high quality standards in those areas where Hispanic students show greater underachievement (e.g., math, science, technology, etc.), as documented by national, state and local reports. This new section under Title II will support competitive grants addressing all PK-12 areas of education.
- HACU recommends that this new section allow funding of consortia and partnerships between HSIs and Associate HSIs (institutions with 10% Hispanic enrollment or at least 1000 Hispanic students, to be defined under Title V), for the preparation of Hispanic teachers to meet national, state and local needs.
- HACU recommends that this section also authorize collaboration between PK-12 schools and HSIs, Associate HSIs and any other eligible applicants for grants funded by relevant parts or sections of Title II. These grants are intended to better prepare teachers for those communities and sections of the country where Hispanics and other minority populations are congregated in larger numbers.

TITLE IV: FINANCIAL AID/STUDENT SUPPORT/IMMIGRATION

- HACU recommends doubling the amount of the authorized maximum Pell Grant within the multi-year cycle of the HEA reauthorization, and assuring adequate funding levels for needy students by making the Pell grant an entitlement at a level comparable to the 80% grant / 20% loan ratio originally in place when first initiated.
- HACU recommends increasing funding of the state challenge-grant program (LEAP) to \$120 million with new federal dollars to complement the Pell Grant Program to assist Hispanics and other needy students.
- HACU recommends other financial support mechanisms for Hispanic achievement in higher education. These mechanisms include discontinuing all federal student loan-origination fees, fixing the maximum interest rate at or below the current level or prime rate (whichever is lower), and forgiving accumulated federal loan debt of graduates who choose to work for HSIs.
- HACU recommends providing long term immigrant students, who have successfully completed a secondary school program of study or its equivalent and have been physically present in the United States for a continuous period of not less than five years, with eligibility for federal financial aid programs.
- HACU recommends that the authorization level for TRIO be increased to \$1.7 billion for fiscal year 2005 "and such sums as Congress deems necessary" for each of the four succeeding fiscal years.
- HACU recommends that HSIs and other minority-serving institutions be granted the same number of points as those received by other institutions for "prior experience" in TRIO grant competitions.
- HACU recommends that the authorization level for GEAR-UP programs increase to \$425 million for each of the five years of the HEA and any additional funds "which Congress may deem appropriate and necessary."
- HACU recommends migrant program funding of \$75 million "and such sums as Congress deems necessary" as an annual funding base for the entire HEA cycle.

AUTHORIZATION OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION ACT

TITLE V: INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT/GRADUATE EDUCATION/TECHNOLOGY

- HACU recommends that the funding level for HSIs under Title V specifically directed at infrastructure enhancement for undergraduate programs at two- and four-year institutions be increased to \$465 million per year “and such sums as Congress deems necessary” for the authorized cycle of years following the reenacting of the HEA.
- HACU recommends the elimination of the two-year wait out period for HSIs between grant completion and new application cycles. Currently the two-year wait out period is in direct opposition to the intent of Title V to enhance the quality and accessibility of HSIs.
- HACU also recommends that the “50 percent low-income” assurance requirement be eliminated from the funding criteria of Title V: this requirement applies only to HSIs among minority-serving institutions and creates an unnecessary and costly administrative burden.
- HACU recommends creation of a new category of “Associate HSIs” for institutions that do not meet the eligibility criteria for HSI designation, but whose total FTE Hispanic undergraduate or graduate enrollment exceeds 10 percent or at least 1,000 such students. These institutions shall not be directly eligible for Title V funding, but may act as parts of consortia with one or more eligible HSIs to foster Hispanic higher education success. Associate HSIs may be sub-grantees of HSIs either for consortia or partnership purposes.
- HACU recommends the creation of a new section under Title V of the HEA to be identified as Part B, Graduate Education to be authorized at \$125 million “and such sums as Congress deems necessary” for each year of the HEA cycle.
- HACU recommends \$50 million be authorized for each year of the HEA cycle “and such sums as Congress may deem necessary” for the creation of a new section under Title V, Part D of the HEA to be known as the Technology Enhancement Program for HSIs.

TITLE VI: INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

- HACU recommends the creation of a new section under Title VI to be authorized for \$30 million per year for the HEA cycle, “and such sums as Congress may deem necessary,” for the establishment of an Institute for Pan-Hispanic International Studies under the auspices of a consortium of eligible HSIs.
- HACU recommends establishing a new section under Title VII to be authorized for \$20 million per year for the HEA cycle, “and such sums as Congress deems necessary,” to support the “Hispanic International Scholars and Fellows” program.

TITLE VII: GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

- HACU recommends that \$10 million be authorized “and such sums as Congress deems necessary” to create a graduate fellowship program under Title VII of HEA to establish partnerships between HSIs and non-HSIs for increased Hispanic student enrollment and success in graduate and professional programs.
- HACU recommends that Congress authorize \$15 million per year of the HEA cycle, “and such sums as Congress deems necessary,” to support a “HSI Fellowship Program” under Title VII, Part A, Subpart 5 of the HEA.
- HACU recommends that Congress authorize \$20 million per year of the HEA cycle, “and such sums as Congress deems necessary,” to support an HSI/FIPSE program within Part B of the “Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education” of the HEA.

CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS JOIN HACU TO ANNOUNCE HEA RECOMMENDATIONS

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plan” is “a blueprint for creating a new era of Hispanic higher education excellence and success.”

Hispanics also suffer disproportionately high levels of poverty, which means student financial aid must be made available to more Hispanic higher education students, said Dolores Fernandez, president of Hostos Community College of the City University of New York and a member of the HACU Governing Board.

Congress is now considering the amendments to the HEA as part of the Act’s five-year reauthorization cycle.

A day before the news conference, Flores, Vicente and HACU Governing Board member Ricardo Fernandez, president of Lehman College of the City University of New York, met with U.S. Secretary of Education Roderick Paige about HACU’s HEA recommendations. Flores also urged Paige to name a President’s Board of Advisors on HSIs that would function in a capacity similar to that of the existing Board of Advisors on HBCUs (Historically Black Colleges and Universities).

At the Capitol Hill news conference, U.S. Senator Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico, co-chair of the Senate Hispanic-Serving Institutions Coalition, said he anticipated strong, bipartisan support for the new “Next Generation HSIs” bill.

Members of the House and Senate expressed support for the “Next Generation HSIs” bill introduced by Bingaman in the

Senate and by Hinojosa in the House. The bills would authorize \$300 million in annual new federal spending on HSIs beginning in federal Fiscal Year 2005, including a first-time funding for mechanisms specifically for graduate education programs at HSIs.

More than 50 percent of Hispanic higher education students now attend two-year community colleges. Bingaman said the proposed legislation would also ease the transition of Hispanic students from two-year institutions to four-year institutions in the effort to ultimately increase the numbers of Hispanic students with baccalaureate and post-baccalaureate degrees.

“It’s very important that we pass this legislation,” said U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer of California, praising Bingaman for introducing the legislation in the Senate and U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, Bingaman’s co-chair of the Senate HSIs Coalition, for signing on as principal co-sponsor.

With Hispanics expected to make up such a large part of America’s future workforce, “we better shape up and give people the American dream they work hard for,” Boxer said.

“We know the potential is there,” U.S. Rep. James Moran of Virginia said, citing the experiences of the Hispanic students in Virginia who have overcome barriers to gain academic excellence, and

urging increased support for all the nation’s under-funded HSIs.

U.S. Rep. Ileana-Ros Lehtinen of Florida, chair of the Congressional Hispanic Conference, expressed her support for Hinojosa’s House version of the “Next Generation HSIs” bill and for HACU’s continuing efforts to open more doors to college for Hispanic students. “We need HACU to be successful for our future,” Ros-Lehtinen said.

Just as the “Next Generation HSIs” bill embraces key components of HACU’s HEA reauthorization proposals, Congress also is being asked to consider bills



Above: U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer of California addresses HACU’s Capitol Hill news conference.



James Moran, Representative of California



Lucille Roybal-Allard, Representative of California



U.S. Rep. Robert Menendez, Chair, House Democratic Caucus, at HACU’s Capitol Hill news conference on HEA reauthorization.

embracing HACU’s call for new federal policies allowing states the flexibility to offer affordable in-state tuition to immigrant students, regardless of their immigration status.

U.S. Representative Lucille Roybal-Allard of California, one of the authors of the Student Adjustment Act in the House, cited examples of top students who could not have attended college had California not changed its law to allow eligible students to qualify for affordable in-state tuition rates.

Allard said the Student Adjustment Act, and the companion DREAM Act in the Senate, will give long-term resident students opportunity to excel “and to give back to their communities and the nation as educated workers and professionals.”

HACU’s HEA reauthorization proposals are also calling for record new investments in international education at the nation’s Hispanic Serving Institutions.

U.S. Rep. Robert Menendez of New Jersey, the highest-ranking Hispanic leader on either side of the Congressional aisle, as chair of the Congressional Democratic Caucus, expressed support for HACU’s proposals for a new Pan-Hispanic International Studies program and a Hispanic International Scholars and Fellows program for HSIs.

“A global economy requires globally minded leaders,” Menendez said.

The complete report on HACU’s Public Policy Priorities for Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act is available on the Capitol Connections page at www.hacu.net.

MILLER BREWING DONATES \$1 MILLION TO ¡ADELANTE!

Miller Brewing Company presented a \$1 million check to the ¡Adelante! U.S. Education Leadership Fund in support of the national Hispanic college scholarship and leadership development program.

Joining Miller Brewing Company officials to present the donation to ¡Adelante! was seven-time world boxing champion Oscar De La Hoya.

“¡Adelante! is an incredible organization that gives back to students and the community,” De La Hoya said at a “Luncheon of Champions” for ¡Adelante! in San Antonio.

“¡Adelante! helps Hispanic college students “become winners and champions in their own fields and professions,” said Gary Booher, senior vice president of human resources for Miller Brewing Company and an ¡Adelante! board member.

“Miller Brewing Company is proud of its long-standing commitment to create opportunities for Hispanic students who aspire to attain a higher education,” Booher said. “At Miller, we believe it is crucial to invest in tomorrow’s leaders, and we know that our support of ¡Adelante! is helping that goal become a reality.”

The ¡Adelante! U.S. Education Leadership Fund was founded by HACU and became a separate organization in 1999. “This program is building a new generation of Hispanic corporate and community leaders,” said HACU President and CEO Antonio R. Flores, who is chair of the ¡Adelante! board.

“Hispanics are an integral part of our society, and it is important that their desire to continue their education is not hindered due to financial difficulties,” ¡Adelante! Executive Director John Puder said. “We are so fortunate that Miller Brewing Company recognizes the importance of investing in the community through their commitment to educational advancement.”

The ¡Adelante! Fund each year provides Hispanic college juniors and seniors attending HACU member Hispanic-Serving Institutions with scholarships worth up to \$3,000, summer



Pictured above from left to right Mr. W. Gary Booher - Human Resources, Miller Brewing Company; Oscar de la Hoya; John M. Puder, Executive Director of ¡Adelante!; Mr. Jose Ruano - Corporate Relation Manager, Miller Brewing Company

internships at participating corporations and at an annual leadership-training institute.

The 2003 ¡Adelante! Leadership Institute in May in San Antonio was attended by 65 college students, including 38 recipients of 2003-2004 ¡Adelante! scholarships from HACU member colleges and universities in Arizona, California, Florida, Illinois, New Mexico, New York and Texas.

For more information about ¡Adelante!, contact the ¡Adelante! Executive Director John Puder at (210) 692-1971 (jpuder@adelantefund.org). Or visit www.adelantefund.org.



HACU Member University of Texas - Pan American received a \$5,544 donation through a program that was

established by Gateway and HACU. Representatives from Gateway and the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities met with University administrators to discuss the role of technology on the UTPA campus. Through this rebate program, HACU Member Institutions have the opportunity to earn quarterly rebates based on the dollar amounts of Gateway products purchased by the institution, its staff, faculty members, students, and alumni. These funds can be used to expand technology budgets, improve infrastructure, setup scholarships for Hispanic students and help bridge the digital divide.



Pictured above from left to right are Charles Kennedy, Gateway Public Sector Account Manager; Tom Fitzgerald, Gateway Vice President of Institutions; UTPA President Dr. Miguel A. Nevárez; and Javier Zambrano, HACU Director of Development.



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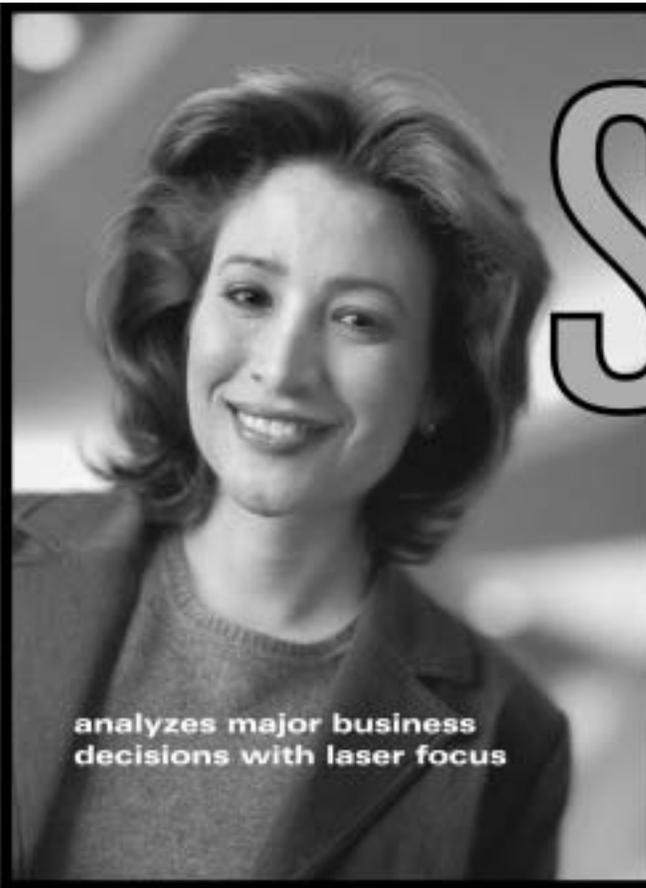
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